

BROTHER GARDNER

He Gives Some Paternal Advice
to a Departing Brother

(Copyright, 1903, by C. B. Lewis.)

FOUR weeks ago Shindig Watkins of the Limekiln club received an offer to go to Indianapolis and establish a colored ice cream and popcorn depot, with sarsaparilla and molasses candy on the outside, and he at once began getting his shoes mended and the buttons sewed on his vest.

At the last meeting of the club it was announced that he had succeeded in borrowing 90 cents of Elder Penstock and would start on his journey next day. After the routine business had been transacted Brother Gardner arose and looked around and queried:

"Am Brudder Shindig Watkins in our midst dis evenin'?"

"He am," replied the brother as he stood up.

"I didn't know but yo' had dun fell outer de winder into de alley, same as once befo', an' I 'ze glad to find de contrary. Brudder Watkins, I 'ze bin told dat yo' talk o' leavin' us?"

"Yes, sah; I does."

"Gwine down to Injanny to sot up in bizness fur yo'self, I hear?"

"Yes, sah."

"Waal, dis club will miss yo', an' each an' ebery member will be sorry to see yo' go. While yo' am not a brilliant man, neither hev yo' spit on de stove nor broken any lamp chimneys. As dis am de last meetin' befo' yo' departur' I wish to say a few fatherly words to yo'."

"Yes, sah."

"In de fust place, pay up all yo' debts befo' yo' go. Had Cicero left Rome owin' fur house rent, groceries, bacon an' so on he could never hev achieved greatness. In de second place, if yo've bin mad at anybody because yo' couldn't agree about de aige of Noah when he entered de ark go to him an' offer yo' hand an' make friends."

"I has dun it, sah," replied Shindig.

"Dat am well. I also want to take advantage of dis occasion to say a few words to yo' on de subject of honesty."

"A good many years ago, as de story runs, dat was a strictly honest man. He begun life wid de determinashun to do de squar thing under all circumstances. He had a cash capital of \$25,000 an' lots of faith in human natur'."

He planted watermillyuns an' didn't hire nobody to watch de patch. He kept chickens an' didn't hev no lock on de henhouse doah. He lent money an' didn't ax fur no I. O. U. He signed bonds an' notes an' didn't ax fur no security. If he bought a mewl he took de odder man's word fur it; if he sold one he promptly p'inted out de ringbones an' spavins an' owned up dat de beast was about twenty years old."

"Brudder Watkins, how long do yo' reckon dat man lasted? In jest nine years he was in de poorhouse, an' he nebber dun got out ag'in. All de rest of de kentry was watchin' him to see how de experiment would pan out. It was a dead failure an' a solemn warnin'."

Does yo' ketch on, Brudder Watkins?"

"I reckon I does, sah," was the reply.

"Doan' go down to Injanny feelin' dat yo' am doin' de state a great favor by de comin', an' doan' attempt to put on style ober de people yo' meet. If yo' had nebber bin bo'n into dis world de state of Injanny would hev got along jest de same. She wants yo' ice cream an' 'lasses candy, but she isn't gwine to bust up because she doan' git 'em."

"It will of co'se be known dat yo' am a member of dis Limekiln club, an' aldermen, judges an' eben de guvner will call on yo' an' stop to shake hands wid yo' on de street. Doan' let yo' self git swelled up wid pride. Be jest proud 'nuff to go right on tendin' to bizness, but not proud 'nuff to bust to pieces like a b'ller carryin' too much steam. Does yo' understand my meanin', Brudder Watkins?"

"Yes, sah; I does, sah."

"Doan' land in Indianapolis wid any pertickler motto on yo' banner. Excelsior am a very good motto, but it seldom pans out anything dat de owner feels proud of. Mottoes war all right 200 years ago, when land was cheap an' yo' could vote as often as yo' wanted to on 'leckshun day, but times hev changed. In olden times honesty was de best policy, but in dese days de man who buys a watch is supposed to count all de wheels fur hisself. If yo' find dat yo' kin mix a little co'nstarch wid yo' ice cream an' thus save expenses an' please de people jest de same yo' will probably do so of yo' own accord."

"Yes, sah; I 'ze gwine to mix 'em about half an' half," smilingly replied the brother.

"Dat's a heap o' starch, but mebbe not too much. I doan' know how yo' stand on de matter of chickens. Brudder Watkins, but in comin' to a new community it seems to me dat yo' had better go slow. Dat am, doan' let yo' hankerin' fur chicken git de better of yo' judgment. Let becom an' codish satisfy yo' until yo' hev looked around."

"Yo' am doubtless awar of de fact dat de torpedo chicken am an Injanny invenshun and dat ober 50,000 of 'em am in use in dat state. In some cases whar de torpedo chicken am in use yo' will find a red chalk mark on de hencoop doah; in odders yo' will take long chances. Make no decided move tll yo' have bin in Indianapolis fur at least a month."

"I was gwine to say, sah, dat I doan' keer fur chickens 'tall."

"Den it's all de better fur yo', Brudder Watkins, an' jest as well fur de chickens. Now, about de society in Indianapolis. How do yo' propose to start out?"

"My wife will gin a soiree soon arter we git dar, sah."

"Dat's k'rect. Yo' will find three

sorts o' culled folks in ebery town. De first strata am de waiters an' barbers, de second de whitewashers an' stoveblackers, de third de common niggers who job around by de day. Invite only de fust strata to yo' soiree. Yo' must hev ice cream, 'lasses candy an' at least one kind o' cake. Paper napkins will do, but yo' must not pass around water in a tin dipper. If yo' haven't got tumblers 'nuff den use a couple o' yaller bowls.

"As de host yo' will be expected to wear white cotton gloves, a red necktie an' a new paper collar nebber worn befo'. If dar am no bell on yo' doah den hire one fur de occashun. No soiree was eber a success widout a doahbell. If yo' have ice cream 'nuff fur three dishes all around yo' will at once establish yo'self in de fust strata. "Now, about yo' ranshul standin'. Was yo' gwine to tell everybody dat yo' was in de ice cream an' 'lasses



"HE REIT CHICKENS AN' DIDN'T HEV NO LOCK ON DE HENHOUSE DOAH."

candy bizness simply to occupy yo' thoughts while waitin' to invest \$25,000 sumwhar?"

"No, sah," replied Shindig. "I shan't dun do no braggin' 'tall."

"Dat's right. Yo' needn't tell everybody dat yo' only had 27 cents left arter reachin' de town, an' yo' needn't carry de idea dat it makes yo' tired to cut off yo' coupons. Take a sort of middle course. Pay cash fur what yo' buy, an' if de report spreads around dat yo' am a millionaire don't deny nor admit it. Yo' will attend church, of co'se?"

"Yes, sah—twice on ebery Sunday in de daytime an' once in de evenin'."

"Dat will gin 'em de impresshun dat yo' am a hustler. I believe yo' am a Baptist. Dat religion am all right, but doan' be in a hurry. De Methodist religion am also all right. If de Methodist church down dar in Indianapolis has a bell an' a steeple on it an' de Baptist church am only a sort o' shed it might be polley fur yo' to jine up wid de former. I is sorry to say dat in dese degenerate days we judge of a man's religion mo' by de outside looks of de meetin' house dan how he acts inside of it."

"Dat's about all, Brudder Watkins, an' yo' kin feel assured in gwine away from dis club, of which yo' hev bin a member almost since de first meetin', dat yo' leave obly friends behind. We shall want to hear from yo' often, an' we shall hope to hev yo' spirit wid us at ebery regular meetin'."

"It am not de custom of de club to make presents on sich occashuns, but if yo' will call at my cabin befo' yo' go I will give yo' a receipt fur chilblains, an' also tell yo' how to pick out a ripe watermillyun from a green one on de darkest night. De meetin' will now bust up an' go along home."

M. QUAD.

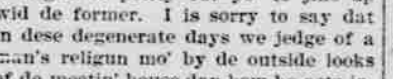
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PROBATE NOTICE.

In the Probate Court of the County of Cochise, Territory of Arizona.

Notice is hereby given that Maggie Corcoran having filed in this court her petition praying for letters of administration of the estate of Cathrine Hughes, deceased; the hearing of the same has been fixed by said Court for Saturday, the 19th day of December, 1902, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of said day, at the court room thereof at the court house, in the city of Tombstone, County of Cochise, and all persons interested in said estate are notified then and there to appear and show cause, if any there be, why the said prayer should not be granted.

Dated December 2nd, 1902.

F. R. O'BRIEN, Clerk.

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